

REMARKS

The application includes claims 1-27 prior to entering this amendment.

The examiner rejected claims 1-8 and 15-24 under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite.

The examiner indicated that claims 2-8, 23-24, and 16-22 would be allowable if claim 1 and 15 were rewritten or amended to overcome the rejections under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph.

Claims 9-14 and 25-27 were allowed.

Applicant amends claims 1, 2, 3, 5, 8 and 15-17 to obviate the Section 112 rejections.

The application remains with claims 1-27 after entering this amendment.

The applicant traverses the rejections, adds no new matter and requests reconsideration.

Section 112, Second Paragraph Claim Rejections

The examiner rejected claims 1-8 and 15-24 under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite. Claim 1 is amended to replace the term “routing table identifier” with more definite terminology, namely a “forwarding tag.”¹ In addition, the forwarding routing table is specified in the claim to avoid confusion with the routing table used for lookup by the first processor, as they are distinct. Corresponding changes are made for consistency in claims 2, 3, 5 and 8. These amendments are believed to obviate the grounds for rejection and thus claims 1-8 and 23-24 (which depend from claim 1) should now be allowed.

Claim 15 is amended to replace the term “routing table identifier” with the more definite term, “forwarding tag.”² Corresponding changes are made for consistency in claims 16 and 17. Claims 15-22 should now be allowed.

¹ The *forwarding tag* in various embodiments is described in the specification for example at page 6, last paragraph; page 22; page 24, second paragraph; paragraph bridging pages 24-25, page 26, second and third paragraphs, FIGS. 8-11.

² See note 1 for support in the specification.

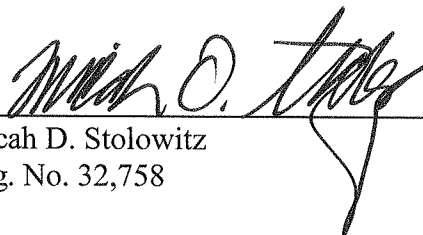
Conclusion

Claims 9-14 and 25-27 were previously allowed, so this case is now in condition for allowance in its entirety. The applicants encourage the examiner to telephone the undersigned at (503) 224-2170 if any issues remain.

Customer No. 73552

Respectfully submitted,

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A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Micah D. Stolowitz", is written over a horizontal line.

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